IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-33 (Canceled).

Claim 34 (New): A process for removing a coating from coated substrates, while preparing the substrates for subsequent uses in which a surface of the substrate that has been at least partially freed of coating is required, with aid of plasma, comprising:

directing, to locally remove the coating, the plasma onto the region of the substrate from which the coating is to be removed, wherein

plasma having an effective width/area determined by number and/or shape of plasma nozzles which corresponds at least to the width/area of a region from which the coating is to be removed, is directed onto the surface of the substrate from which the coating is to be removed, to remove the coating on a part-area and/or at least over a part-thickness.

Claim 35 (New): A process according to Claim 34, wherein plasma is directed onto the substrate in a row of at least two adjacent beams.

Claim 36 (New): A process according to Claim 35, wherein, to change a coverage width of plasma and substrate, at least one plasma beam is deactivated or activated and/or an angle of incidence of the row formed by the plasma beams is changed with respect to a direction of advance.

Claim 37 (New): A process according to Claim 34, wherein plasma from at least one slit-shaped source is directed onto the substrate.

Claim 38 (New): A process according to Claim 37, wherein, to change a coverage width of plasma and substrate, the cross section of the slit-shaped source is changed and/or the angle of incidence thereof is changed with respect to a direction of advance.

Claim 39 (New): A process according to Claim 34, wherein a continuous relative movement is brought about between the plasma and the substrate from which the coating is to be removed, wherein a device that emits the plasma is moved relative to the substrate, the substrate is moved relative to the device that emits the plasma or both are moved relative to one another.

Claim 40 (New): A process according to Claim 34, wherein a relative movement is brought about between the plasma and the substrate parallel to the edge of the substrate from which the coating is to be removed.

Claim 41 (New): A process according to Claim 34, wherein a row of parallel plasma beams is aligned normal to the edge of the glass plate from which the coating is to be removed, and a relative movement in a direction of advance is brought about between the substrate and this row of plasma beams transverse to the latter.

Claim 42 (New): A process according to Claim 34, wherein a row of plasma beams or a slit nozzle that emits a plasma beam pivots about an axis perpendicular to the substrate in the region of a corner of a substrate from which the coating is to be removed.

Claim 43 (New): A process according to Claim 34, used to remove the coating from an edge and/or a face of a substrate.

Claim 44 (New): A process according to Claim 34, wherein the plasma is also used to remove the coating from end edges or faces of the substrate, wherein the plasma beams are directed essentially in the normal direction onto the end edges or faces.

Claim 45 (New): A process according to Claim 34, wherein a flat shield directly adjacent to the respective working region is used, which flat shield is positioned as close to the substrate surface as possible.

Claim 46 (New): A process according to Claim 45, wherein a shield which surrounds the working region of the plasma in the manner of a frame is used.

Claim 47 (New): A process according to Claim 34, wherein particles which are detached in the working region are immediately removed by a discharge device.

Claim 48 (New): A process according to Claim 34, used to remove the coating from regions within an area circumscribed by an edge of the substrate.

Claim 49 (New): A process according to Claim 34, used to remove metal, oxide, nitride or organic coatings or combinations of the layer types.

Claim 50 (New): A process according to Claim 34, used to remove hydrophobic and/or hydrophilic coatings.

Claim 51 (New): An apparatus for carrying out the process according to Claim 34, comprising:

a supporting surface for the substrate from which the coating is to be removed,

a carrier for at least one plasma source,

a device for moving the substrate, and

a device for moving the carrier of the plasma source,

wherein at least two plasma heads or at least one plasma head having a slit section, is arranged on the carrier for the plasma source.

Claim 52 (New): An apparatus according to Claim 51, wherein the carrier for the plasma head or heads is configured to be moved in front of the supporting surface along an essentially vertical bar by a drive.

Claim 53 (New): An apparatus according to Claim 52, wherein the bar is mounted in the apparatus in a fixed or movable manner.

Claim 54 (New): An apparatus according to Claim 52, wherein the carrier for the plasma head or heads is configured to rotate about an axis perpendicular to the plane of the substrate from which the coating is to be removed.

Claim 55 (New): An apparatus according to Claim 52, wherein the carrier for the plasma head or heads is configured to be adjusted perpendicular to the plane of the substrate.

Claim 56 (New): An apparatus according to Claim 55, wherein the carrier for the plasma head or heads is adjustably mounted on a retaining plate guided on the bar.

Claim 57 (New): An apparatus according to Claim 56, wherein the carrier on the retaining plate is configured to pivot about an axis perpendicular to the plane of the substrate.

Claim 58 (New): An apparatus according to Claim 56, wherein the carrier on the retaining plate is configured to be adjusted in a linear manner parallel to the plane of the substrate.

Claim 59 (New): An apparatus according to Claim 51, wherein each of the plasma head or heads is arranged in a row next to one another on the carrier.

Claim 60 (New): An apparatus according to Claim 59, wherein the carrier on the retaining plate is configured to be adjusted in the direction of the row of adjacent plasma heads.

Claim 61 (New): An apparatus according to Claim 51, wherein a shield is provided in the region of the plasma head or heads in the region where the plasma hits the substrate and the coating.

Claim 62 (New): An apparatus according to Claim 61, wherein the shield surrounds the working region of the plasma in the manner of a frame.

Claim 63 (New): An apparatus according to Claim 61, wherein the shield is guided together with the plasma head or heads.

Claim 64 (New): An apparatus according to Claim 51, wherein a device for discharging detached particles of the coating is provided in the working region of the plasma head or heads in the region where the plasma hits the substrate and the coating.

Claim 65 (New): Apparatus according to Claim 61, wherein the device is joined to the shield and is guided together with the shield.

Claim 66 (New): Apparatus according to Claim 51, wherein the carrier is configured to pivot about at least one axis parallel to the surface of the substrate to deflect the plasma essentially in the normal direction onto an end edge or face of the substrate.